(a) the number of petrol/Diesel retail outlets opened in Uttar Pradesh during the years 1990 and 1991;

(b) the letters of intent issued in 1991, 1992, including those from his discretionary quota;

(c) whether Government propose to open new Petrol/diesel retail outlets in Uttar Pradesh in 1992; and

(d) if so, what are their locations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a).

Year	1990	ROs	52
Do.	1991	Do.	47

(b) 28 LOIs during 1991 and 1 during 1992.

(c) and (d) Petrol/Diesel retail outlets are opened at different places in the country including those in U.P. on the basis of market survey, economic viability, product availability etc., under various marketing plans.

Offshore Oil and Gas Survey

3168. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Institute of Oceanology (NIO) has submitted a report to Government regarding their survey of oil and gas on offshores;

(b) whether it is a fact that NIO in its survey has found that the offshore from Kutch to Cambay has huge quantity of oil and gas; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to explore oil and gas in this region?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) National Institute of Oceanography had taken up two collaborative projects with ONGC for acquisition of data in Karwar and Bombay High areas in the Western offshore. There is no mention of oil and gas prospects in the Kutch, Saurashtra of Cambay region in these studies.

पश्चिमी बंगाल में तेल के भंडार

3169. **श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :**
श्री कपिल वर्मा :
कुमारी सईदा खातून :

क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 13 जनवरी, 1992 के एक समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित इस समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें कहा गया है कि पश्चिमी बंगाल के तट पर और अपतट में लगभग 300 किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में तेल और गैस का भंडार छिपा पड़ा है जो कि सऊदी-अरब के तेल भंडार से भी अधिक है; यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर प्रतिक्रिया क्या है; और

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा तेल की खोज के लिए देश भर में अब तक जिन 72 स्थानों को चिन्हित किया गया है उनमें यह शामिल नहीं है यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी. शंकरानन्द) : (क) और (ख) पश्चिम बंगाल में तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के बड़े भंडार होने के बारे में किए गए दावे तथ्यों पर आधारित नहीं है। चौथे दौर की बोली में पश्चिम बंगाल में पांच ब्लाकों को अन्वेषण के लिए सौंपा गया है।

Energy saving Technology

3170. HSRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have urged all large industrial units in the country to adopt energy saving technology while processing petroleum products;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to use of outdated technology and equipments in the processing of petroleum products, the country is losing crores of rupees annually; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) Large industrial units have been urged to adopt energy saving technology. Various measures are under implementation to promote development, standardisation and use of fuel-efficient equipment, devices and technology; replacement of outdated and inefficient ones; creation of mass awareness for oil conservation, imparting of education and training to target groups of oil users, conducting of energy audits and oil use studies, etc.

Calcination Plants

3171. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that calcination plant located in Barauni and Begusarai, run by private party does not utilise the raw materials (calcine coke) alloted to it;

(b) if so, what are the details of raw coke supplied in this case and quantum of sale of finished goods, including sales tax accounts; whether it is a fact that the raw coke supplied in this case and sold in black market; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute an inquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). There are four private parties whom IOC supplies RPC in the area of Barauni and Begusari. Details are as follows:—

Calciners	1991-92 Aprli/ Jan. Actual/ supplies (MT)
Bihar Carbon . .	5635
Neo Carbon . .	3977
Maniyar Metal . .	6007
UHC Tilrath . .	9581

It has been reported by IOC that they are not aware of any sale of RPC by the calcining units.

Transfer of ONGC's responsibilties to Gas Authority of India Limited

3172. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to hand over Oil and Natural Gas Commission's gas processing, transportation and marketing to the Gas Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that scientific and technical officers of Oil and Natural Gas Commission's Southern Region have opposed the move; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) A M.O.U. has been entered into between ONGC and GAIL according to which some gas transportation and marketing assets of ONGC would be transferred to GAIL.

(c) and (d) Various representations have been received from time to time and have been taken into consideration while implementing the decision.